



Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin listens to a question during a briefing at the Pentagon in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022.

Associated Press

Spy agencies pulled 2020 vote study amid internal dissent

By NOMAAN MERCHANT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As U.S. spy agencies ramped up their work to catch foreign meddling in this year's election, a team of CIA experts studied lessons learned from the contentious 2020 vote. Unexpectedly, their report sparked a controversy within parts of the intelligence community. In a rare move, their study was withdrawn shortly after it was issued in the spring after rank-and-file officers protested that it

failed to address the allegations of politics seeping into intelligence that arose in the 2020 election and that remain unresolved for some today. Reissued in September, the study remains classified and its full contents aren't publicly known. Several people familiar with the matter would say only that it included recommendations on how intelligence leaders could best examine and report election threats attributed to Russia, China and other American adversaries.

Continued on Page 2

Aruban designer Darwin Winklaar receives In the Spotlight Award



Cyclists activity to bring awareness in the community



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Spy agencies pulled 2020 vote study amid internal dissent



Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, right, speaks during a briefing at the Pentagon in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022, moderated by Pentagon spokesman Air Force Brig. Gen. Patrick Ryder, left.

Associated Press

Continued from Front

The dispute over a relatively routine study and its unusual withdrawal highlight ongoing concerns over how to address the varying foreign threats to U.S. elections — including disinformation, cyber espionage and the amplification of existing divisions within American society. In an increasingly polarized America, some of those tensions have spilled over inside the nominally apolitical world of intelligence, some former officers say.

Some officers have alleged intelligence leaders in 2020 played down findings on Russia to suit the demands of former President Donald Trump, who fired a director of national intelligence in one dispute over Moscow's election meddling. Others say election-related intelligence on China in particular was wrongly played down out of a belief that politicians would misuse it. The study was requested by the former election threats executive at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, which oversees the 18 U.S. spy agencies.

It was ultimately republished with what's known as a "scope note" explaining the study was focused primarily on senior leaders and not intended to delve into the politicization of intelligence or other potential issues around elections. Several people described the debate over the study on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive intelligence matters.

Tim Barrett, the top spokesman for Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, said intelligence officials have expanded training on objectivity in analysis and worked to better collaborate across agencies.

"We are committed to impartial and inclusive analysis and will continue to provide the insights needed to safeguard our democracy," Barrett said in a statement.

The CIA's Center for the Study of Intelligence produces internal histories of key moments and issues faced across the intelligence community. Its reports are intended to guide current and future officers. Nicholas Dujmovic, a retired CIA officer who served

on the agency's history staff, said any decision to withdraw a study would be unusual, but not unprecedented. Dujmovic, now a professor at the Washington-based Catholic University of America, said he did not have specific knowledge of the recently republished study.

"We're in the intelligence business. We're in the truth business," he said. "Occasionally, if we have information that a study is flawed, we might pull it back and rework it."

One of the study's recommendations was for intelligence agencies to adopt a definition across countries of "election influence" and "election interference."

The lack of a standard practice was flagged by the intelligence community's analytic ombudsman, Barry Zulauf, shortly after the 2020 election. Zulauf wrote in a separate report — an unclassified version of which was released in January 2021 — that analysts studying Russia and China defined "influence" differently, possibly leading to the analysts drawing different conclusions about

each country's intentions and actions.

The ombudsman accused Trump's top appointees of delaying and distorting some intelligence findings for political reasons. Some of Trump's attacks on election-related intelligence became public in 2020, including his firing of the director of national intelligence, Joseph Maguire, after his office briefed Congress that Russia was trying to boost Trump's reelection campaign.

Zulauf also found the political pressure may have affected analysts focused on China, who "appeared hesitant to assess Chinese actions as undue influence or interference," in part because they felt Trump would use their findings to attack China and downplay Russia's interventions in support of him.

Ultimately, U.S. intelligence concluded Russian President Vladimir Putin authorized influence operations intended to help Trump while Chinese leaders "considered but did not deploy" measures.

In a dissent published in the same report, the national

intelligence officer for cyber said he believed China "took at least some steps" in 2020 to try to undermine Trump, primarily through social media and official statements.

This year, U.S. officials are warning of more foreign campaigns to influence midterm races along with the spread of domestic disinformation, the prospect of cyberattacks, and threats and harassment toward election workers.

"The current election threat environment is more complex than it has ever been," said Jen Easterly, the director of the Department of Homeland Security's cybersecurity arm, in a recent media briefing.

Intelligence officials have not given a public briefing on foreign election threats. But unclassified intelligence reports from the Department of Homeland Security, sent to state and local governments, capture some of the current U.S. findings on the intentions of Russia, China and Iran.

Russia is seen as trying to undermine Americans' willingness to support Ukraine eight months into Putin's invasion.

Iran may be interested in "exacerbating social divisions and sowing doubt in U.S. democratic institutions," according to a DHS report issued earlier this year.

And China is probably seeking to influence select midterm races to "hinder candidates perceived to be particularly adversarial to Beijing," according to a DHS report from September. Officials said in the advisory they believe Beijing sees a lower risk in meddling in the midterms versus a presidential election.

Zulauf, the ombudsman, said in his report released last year that the "polarized atmosphere" of the U.S. has "threatened to undermine the foundations of our Republic, penetrating even into the Intelligence Community."

That has made election influence a particularly sensitive topic for spy agencies, former officers say. □

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In a rare move, their study was withdrawn shortly after it was issued in the spring after rank-and-file officers protested that it failed to address the allegations of politics seeping into intelligence that arose in the 2020 election and that remain unresolved for some today.

Reissued in September, the study remains classified and its full contents aren't publicly known. Several people familiar with the matter would say only that it included recommendations on how intelligence leaders could best examine and report election threats attributed to Russia, China and other American adversaries.

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A voter submits their ballot at an early voting location in Alexandria, Va., Sept. 26, 2022.

Associated Press

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Oregon could be 1st state to make health care a human right

By **ANDREW SELSKY**

Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Oregon voters are being asked to decide whether the state should be the first in the nation to amend its constitution to explicitly declare that affordable health care is a fundamental human right.

State Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, a main sponsor of the legislation behind the ballot measure, said making health care a human right is a value statement and is not aimed at pushing Oregon to a single-payer health care system, a longtime goal of many progressives.

But opponents warn the amendment could trigger legal and political woes and open the door to lawsuits.

Measure 111 got onto the Nov. 8 ballot because the Legislature, where Democrats hold a majority, referred the issue to voters last year. There were earlier efforts, including in 2018 as then-President Donald Trump tried to dismantle former President Barack Obama's health care law, but they died in the statehouse.

Republican lawmakers consistently opposed efforts to ask voters to enshrine health care as a right in Oregon's 163-year-old constitution.



A nurse talks to a patient in the emergency room at Salem Hospital in Salem, Ore., on Aug. 20, 2021.

Associated Press

"The bill doesn't fund any system to deliver on that promise," then-Senate Republican Leader Fred Girard said when the resolution was debated in March 2021.

Steiner Hayward recently told The Oregonian/OregonLive that if the measure passes next month, the state's current resources can handle any financial impact in the immediate future. But she would not rule out possible future tax increases to help provide that health care.

"Can I guarantee no new taxes? No. I don't make

promises like that," Steiner Hayward said.

Oregon has a history of being a trendsetter for other liberal states: It was the first to legalize suicide for the terminally ill and was the first to designate itself as a sanctuary state to protect immigrants living in the country illegally. The state has also expanded coverage on abortions and other reproductive services regardless of income, citizenship status or gender identity.

Three dozen organizations, including health workers, unions and educators,

called the new ballot measure "a critical first step to creating an Oregon where everyone can afford to be healthy."

Those signing a statement of support in the voters' pamphlet included the Oregon Nurses Association; Providence Health & Services, a nonprofit Catholic health care system with multiple hospitals; the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians; and the Service Employees International Union, the largest labor union in Oregon.

The proposed amendment states: "It is the obligation

of the state to ensure that every resident of Oregon has access to cost-effective, clinically appropriate and affordable health care as a fundamental right."

It goes on to say that the state's obligation "must be balanced against the public interest in funding public schools and other essential public services."

But it doesn't define "cost-effective, clinically appropriate and affordable," or who is supposed to be footing the bill.

The Oregon Health Authority says 94% of Oregonians already have insurance coverage, and that more are eligible for the Oregon Medicaid plan or a subsidy to reduce the cost of commercial health coverage.

But Steiner Hayward noted that having insurance doesn't guarantee access. "We know that we have health care deserts in the state. We know that our primary care system is overstretched," she said. "We need to be thinking about how do we change all of those things to ensure that having good health insurance means having good access to health care."

The measure was long championed by Democratic state Rep. Mitch Greenlick, who died in 2020 at age 85, a year before the Legislature approved putting it on the ballot. □

First-ever female commissioner to lead NYC fire department



New York City Fire Commissioner Laura Kavanaugh, right, and New York Mayor Eric Adams, left, hold an NYFD badge after Kavanaugh was sworn in during a ceremony at FDNY Engine 33/Ladder 9, Thursday, Oct 27, 2022 in New York.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City Mayor Eric Adams on Thursday appointed acting Fire Commissioner Laura Kavanaugh to lead the department on a permanent basis, making her the first female commissioner in the 157-year history of the Fire Department of New York.

"Laura Kavanaugh is a proven and tested leader, and I'm proud to announce her historic appointment today," the Democratic mayor said.

Kavanaugh, 40, has served as acting commissioner since the retirement of Commissioner Daniel Nigro in February. She will

oversee a department of 17,000, including firefighters and emergency medical workers.

Her appointment as commissioner represents progress for a department seeking to diversify after decades as a white male bastion.

As of August there were 141 female firefighters in the FDNY, the most since a lawsuit forced the department to hire women as firefighters in the 1980s.

Kavanaugh has never been a firefighter herself. She was a senior adviser to former Mayor Bill de Blasio, and a campaign staffer for de

Blasio and former President Barack Obama, before joining the department in an administrative role in 2014. She was named first deputy commissioner in 2018.

As first deputy commissioner and acting commissioner, Kavanaugh oversaw the department's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic and its response to tragedies including a Bronx fire that killed 19.

She is a graduate of Whittier College in California and has a master's degree in public administration from Columbia University. □

Russia may again block Antarctic marine protections

By NICK PERRY

Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) —

Delegations from Russia and Ukraine are among those meeting in Australia this week to decide the future of Antarctica's pristine waters.

Conservationists say new marine protected areas and rules to prevent over-fishing are desperately needed, but that Russia could use its veto-like powers to once again block progress.

Achieving the required consensus for action among this diverse group of 27, which also includes China, the United States and the European Union, has always been an immense challenge.

And when two of the members are at war and relations between China and many Western nations have deteriorated, consensus looms as an even bigger obstacle. Just this month, Russian bombing in Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, partially destroyed Ukraine's Antarctic research center. Yet despite the enormous political hurdles, some remain hopeful that scientific arguments will win through. The U.S. is paying more attention to the region under President Joe Biden, and this year has sent a relatively high-level delegation led by Monica Medina, an



New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, second right, with her partner Clarke Gayford, right, are explained the sites by Antarctica New Zealand chief executive Sarah Williamson shortly after stepping off the plane in Antarctica, Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022.

Associated Press

assistant secretary in the State Department.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Medina said Antarctica was "a really fragile, crumbling part of the planet that needs all our help to withstand the challenges we face with climate change."

The meeting in Hobart in the Australian island state of Tasmania is the first in-person gathering of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resource in three years, after the COVID-19 pandemic kept meetings

online.

It comes as New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern makes a rare visit by a world leader to Antarctica, to see firsthand the scientific research taking place and to mark the 65th anniversary of New Zealand's Scott Base.

The two-week meeting in Hobart began Monday with a mass walkout when the Russian delegates started speaking.

Kostiantyn Demianenko, who is leading the Ukrainian delegation, said they were grateful for the inter-

national support and that Russia had no right to be at the table.

"A state that kills the civilian population, destroys the air and ground civilian infrastructure of another country and defiantly violates the basic provisions of international law should definitely be limited in its right to participate in the activities of international organizations such as CCAMLR," he wrote in an email.

Still, he acknowledged, Russia remained a member of the group.

He said that back home,

Ukraine was trying to rebuild its National Antarctic Research Center in Kyiv, although ongoing drone attacks made that difficult. "Cracks in the walls, broken windows, destroyed equipment led to the impossibility to use these facilities for work," he wrote.

Russia's delegation did not respond to a request for comment.

Medina said the U.S. backed the walkout because it condemns the war in Ukraine, but it remains hopeful for progress in Hobart.

"Right now, Russia is blocking consensus on adoption of three MPA (marine protected area) proposals, but China is as well," Medina said. "So we are here trying to work through the issues with both countries. Not one-on-one necessarily, although we will be trying with the People's Republic of China to work through the issues informally."

She said Russia had been using what amounts to its veto power to block progress not only in Hobart but at a number of international forums.

"It can block consensus. That is a huge impediment to our ability to move forward on some things here, but other things do go ahead in a sort of ordinary course of business," Medina said. □

U.K. says new PM Rishi Sunak won't go to U.N. climate conference



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak leaves 10 Downing Street for the House of Commons for his first Prime Minister's Questions in London, Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022.

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak will not attend a major United Nations climate conference next month, the government said Thursday. Sunak's office said the decision was made because of "pressing domestic commitments" including preparations for an emergency budget on Nov. 17 and does not reflect a downgrade in the Conservative government's commitment to combating climate change. Other senior U.K. government ministers are

expected to attend.

Sunak took office on Tuesday, replacing Liz Truss, who stepped down after a seven-week term in which her tax-cutting plans sparked economic and political mayhem. Officials from almost 200 countries are due to gather in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, starting Nov. 6 to discuss how to tackle global warming at the conference known as COP27. Britain hosted last year's COP26 conference in Glasgow, Scotland, which was attended by then-

Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

A Sunak spokeswoman said Britain remained committed to reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050, "and to leading international and domestic action to tackle climate change."

Opposition Labour Party spokesman Ed Miliband said Sunak had made "a terrible decision."

"These summits matter," he told the BBC. "They are forcing mechanisms for action on the biggest issue we face as a world." □

Mexican police say drug lord killed 20 townspeople

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Authorities said Thursday the massacre of 20 townspeople in southern Mexico appears to have been the work of a drug lord who used social media to try to blame a rival gang.

The new revelations illustrate how Mexican drug cartels are increasingly using social media to apportion blame for attacks and mislead authorities and the public.

Ricardo Mejia, Mexico's assistant secretary of public safety, said Thursday that authorities had raided five properties belonging to the Hurtado brothers, who operate under the name Familia Michoacana cartel. Those raids found ranches, luxury homes and a menagerie including a tiger, a zebra, antelopes and stuffed wild animals.

The Oct. 5 attack in the town of Totolapan killed the town's mayor, his father and 18 other men. Responsibility for the attack was originally claimed in a video attributed to a near-extinct gang known as the Tequileros. Men in the dark,



Residents carry the coffin of Wilmer Rojas the day after he was killed in a mass shooting in San Miguel Totolapan, Mexico, Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022.

shadowy video said they carried out the attack and were retaking Totolapan. The Tequileros had long terrorized the town, but had been chased out years ago by a vigilante group believed to have been backed by the Familia Michoacana, which dominates the area.

José Alfredo Hurtado, who leads the Familia Michoacana along with his brother Johnny, posted a video several days later saying he was the intended target of the shooting and had narrowly escaped.

"The attack was aimed at me," Hurtado said describing the events in which gun-

men entered the town and opened fire on a meeting the mayor was holding with other officials apparently members of a vigilante group.

But Mejia said Thursday that the capo's own group probably killed them. "According to a serious line of investigation, it was

they who carried out the mass execution and tried to make it appear as if another group," Mejia said.

Local media had reported that the Hurtado brothers may have been upset because the Totolapan mayor and the group of vigilantes he apparently headed had rejected the capos' choice of another man to lead the town.

Hours after the Oct. 5 shootings, a group of armed men appeared in a video filmed around dusk, claiming to be the Tequileros and saying they were retaking control of Totolapan, which is near the mountains where much of Mexico's opium poppy crop is grown.

With poor lighting and sound, the Tequileros video was unlike the more slickly produced cartel videos that have become the norm, in which well-armed groups of masked cartel gunmen regularly threaten rivals and authorities, and claim or reject credit for killings.

The Tequileros video now appears to have been a fake. □

Associated Press

African health official: Ebola in Uganda is under control

By **RODNEY MUHUMUZA** and **HAJARAH NALWADDA**
Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Uganda's Ebola outbreak is under control, a top public health official in Africa said Thursday, noting that local health authorities are doing well to trace most contacts. "The situation is not getting out of control," said Dr. Ahmed Ogwell, acting director of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "We have good visibility of all the contacts."

About 98 percent of 2,694 documented contacts people exposed to Ebola by a confirmed patient are being monitored, Ogwell said, adding that it "gives comfort that we know the evolution of this particular outbreak."

Tracing contacts is key to stemming the spread of

contagious diseases like Ebola.

Uganda declared an outbreak of the Sudan strain of Ebola on Sept. 20. The epicenter is a rural community in central Uganda about 150 kilometers (93 miles) from the capital, Kampala.



Pupils wash their hands before entering class at the Green Valley Primary School, one of three to report cases of Ebola in the capital, in Kampala, Uganda Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022.

Associated Press

Health officials in the district of Mubende, where the outbreak began, were not quick to confirm Ebola, partly because the disease's symptoms can mimic those of the more prevalent malaria. A lockdown has since been imposed

there and in a neighboring district as part of efforts to stop the spread of Ebola.

But the outbreak is spreading in Kampala after some Ebola patients traveled to seek treatment there. Six schoolchildren attending three different schools are among at least 15 confirmed Ebola cases in Kampala, the health minister reported Wednesday, raising fears of contagion.

At least 170 contacts of the six schoolchildren are being monitored, Health Minister Jane Ruth Aceng said. Administrators at two of the three Ebola-affected schools told the AP Thursday they would not shut down completely. But they suspended learning for those classes attended by Ebola-sickened children, one of whom has since died.

Tedros Adhanom Ghe-

breyesus, director-general of the World Health Organization, expressed concern over rising cases in new geographical areas in a series of tweets late Wednesday. "Ebola control in urban areas can be complex & requires coordinated & sustained efforts to interrupt transmission," he said.

There is no approved vaccine for the Sudan strain of Ebola, but two candidate vaccines are due to be tested in clinical trials that officials say will launch in days.

The current outbreak of Ebola, which manifests as a viral hemorrhagic fever, has so far infected 109 people and killed 31, including four health workers, according to the Africa CDC.

Ebola is spread by contact with bodily fluids of an infected person or contaminated materials. □

Cyclists activity to bring awareness in the community

ORANJESTAD – Yesterday morning, IBiSA held a press conference to present information regarding a Bike to bring awareness in the community regarding the risks cyclists face when training or competing on public roads.

Gelisa Angela, representative and member of Biking Squad Aruba explained that this foundation was established about two years ago by Rubert Paesh, with the goal of improving health, riding and having fun.

Currently they have about 50 members, and every week most of them are active, training at different parts of the island, since most of them have road bikes to use on the roads and reach trails and mondi.

Similarly there are other organizations that also practice and train, particularly when there are upcoming competitions. But sadly, according to Angela, they have noticed that recently there are a lot of accidents in Aruba with cars hitting cyclists, dogs coming out and attacking and biting the cyclists, and causing physical and emotional damage.

For this reason they came with the initiative to have an awareness Bike Tour Ride and for this they approached the minister of Sport, Mr. Endy Croes as well as minister of Transport, Nature, Integrity and Senior Affairs, Mr. Ursell Arends to discuss how together with IBiSA, the Department of Public Health (DVG) and the ministry of Sport to get this activity going for the 6th of November.

"We understand the comments of drivers saying that there are disrespectful cyclists, but we must say that sadly the respect that we do not receive is a lot more among the motorists, particularly when we are on the road. They don't give us enough space and you need to see to pull all the way to the side for them not to hit you. This is why we need to create aware-



ness", Angela commented.

Edgar Erasmus from IBiSA declared that the bike ride has the goal of bringing awareness to motorists, but also cyclists when they are

using the road, so that both can be aware of safety in traffic, to respect each other. The goal is also for dog owners to make sure to keep their dogs inside to prevent anything hap-

pening to cyclists or other people who use the streets.

IBiSA is helping with the process of organization of this activity which will take place on the 6th of Novem-



ber at ex-Bushiri Hotel from 6am to 12pm covering a distance of 50km. "A long distance, and this is the reason to do this for the member clubs. This is not going to be open for everyone, but only those who have a bike and can cycle a long distance. This is important to know", Erasmus said.

The long distance was chosen because they want to ride through every district and neighborhood of Aruba in order to bring the message to everyone.

They have space for 500 participants 15 years and older, which means that it will be a large group taking to the road. "And for this reason we as IBiSA ask for motorists to be mindful on this day, that a large group of cyclists will be on the road", Erasmus said. He also indicated that they have a permit for this activity and will count with help from the Police Department and the Red Cross. Each club is responsible for their members, Erasmus said, which means that if they get tired they will be taken care of.

Erasmus announced that next week they will be publishing different videos on social media and their website, as well as visiting radio stations to bring the message of awareness to the community the entire week.

Minister of Education and Sport, Mr. Endy Croes was also present at the press conference. He said that a few months ago he was approached by the leader of Biking Squad Aruba, Rubert Paesh and the board. They told the minister of their experience when cycling on the road during training and how many incidents take place. He decided to bring IBiSA on board to organize this activity, which took more than a month of preparation.

IBiSA is also preparing another Bike Tour for the 18th of November at the Sports Center in San Nicolas with a shorter route, where more people can participate. □





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PALM BEACH, ARUBA – Radisson Blu Aruba, located in Palm Beach, celebrated the soft opening of its new Peruvian pop-up restaurant last week. The unique and stylish Blu Bar: A Peruvian-inspired restaurant that offers everything that you love about Peruvian fusion cuisine, but with a modern twist.

Diners can expect to find many seafood-centric dishes including popular Peruvian eats such as Ceviches and Tiraditos. Some of the highlights from the dinner menu include mouthwatering dishes such as the team's favorite: cowboy pork glazed with blackberries jam served with 'fufu', local fish on a sugar snap peas puree, NY strip with Peruvian chimichurri, and 8 hours slow-cooked beef brisket; all dishes enhanced by a modern twist on flavors and presentation. The Executive chef and his team are clearly dedicated to making you come back presenting you tasty appetizers or full entrée offerings.



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Service Anniversaries celebrated at the Hilton

Palm beach. – On Thursday evening, October 21, 2022, Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino celebrated and honored 37 of its team members and their long-term careers.

The evening began with a heart-felt speech given by General Manager Vasco v. Baselli, in Papiamentu, thanking team members for their loyal service throughout the years. The resort celebrated 25, 30 and 35 years of service for 37 team-members, representing a total of 1,055 years of experience and tenure. This staggering number of loyal team-members reflects on the resort's history, and on the opportune moment at which educated locals were looking to transition from the oil industry to tourism. The Grande Dame of Palm Beach was known as the

Aruba Caribbean Hotel when it first opened in 1959. In the mid-80s it became later known as The Golden Tulip. In the year 2000, the resort finalized renovations and became a flagship Radisson Resort, and in 2015, it became a beloved Hilton property.

Throughout the years and transition of hotel brands, loyal team members remained.

Glenn Farro, Director of Human Resources said "We call ourselves Charter Members. I am proud to have been recruited when the resort reopened as The Golden Tulip, signaling the beginning of Aruba's tourism boom".


"You are an inspiration to us all", shared General Manager, Vasco v. Baselli. "Your work-ethic and loyalty are admirable and the joy with which you serve our guests is exceptional".




In the words of Elinor Roosevelt, "true hospitality consists of giving the best of yourself to your guests". The Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino enjoys a rich history and a rich tradition of heartfelt warmth and genuine Aruban hospitality. □



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The Italian Consul in Maracaibo, Dr. Petito visited Aruba and Curaçao

Oranjestad - Promise is debt..... As announced during the mission of last February, the Italian Consul in Maracaibo, Dr. Petito, kept his word and, together with two staff members, visited Aruba and Curaçao to once again fulfill the many requests and requirements of his fellow citizens who reside on these islands.

The mission began on Friday last week in Curaçao, where residing Italian citizens were received at the World Trade Center for a long afternoon of work in order to process and complete all their requests and other matters. On this occasion, the Consul also took the opportunity to interview some Italian nationals who have applied as candidates to replace the current Honorary Consul of the Italian Republic in Curaçao, Mrs. Pruneti, who wishes to resign from this function in the near future after a long period of commitment.

On Sunday, the Consul, together with Mrs. Pruneti and



the accompanying staff members, received fellow citizens residing in Aruba at the Hyatt Place Aruba Airport, where from early in the morning till late afternoon to attend to all their requests and other matters, which were complete to everybody's satisfaction.

The mission of the consul had an additional goal here too: to appoint a consular correspondent for Italy in Aruba, in the person of Mrs. Neyda La Porta Pellizari, who will be looking after the Italian residents' needs and requirements

and provide the necessary assistance.

The idea of this appointment was born from a real necessity, given the large number of both Italian citizens residing in Aruba and visiting Italian tourists, and the growing business interest in the island.

The formal appointment of the consular correspondent took place in meeting room of the Hyatt Place Aruba Airport in the presence of the Aruban Minister of Economy, Communication and Sustainable



Development, Mr. Geoffrey Wever, LL.M, and some fellow Italian nationals.

again to hold a visit in the first quarter of next year, where he also hopes to visit Bonaire.□

Dr. Petito has promised



TGI Friday received Jersey from Gold Medalists

Palm Beach - During the official re-opening of TGI Friday the 2 gold bowling medalists Kamilah and Abigail Dammers autographed

one of their Uniform Jersey and gave it to TGI Friday as a token of appreciation.

Kamilah and Abigail re-

cently won gold medals in the Asuncion 2022 South America Games that was held in Paraguay.

Restaurant Manager Chela de Lannoy was very pleased to receive this gift in the name of TGI Friday as this is the first Jersey they

receive for their "Wall of Fame" where they will be showing more of our local talents.□



Aruban designer Darwin Winklaar receives In the Spotlight Award

THE HAGUE – Aruban fashion designer, Darwin Winklaar, better known as Niño Divino, received from the Plenipotentiary Minister of Aruba in the Netherlands, Mr. Ady Thijssen, the In the Spotlight Award 2022 at the Bijlmer Park theatre in Amsterdam.

Darwin is a multi-talented fashion designer who makes use of storytelling, music, dance and singing to express his artistic disposition. He reintroduced a new genre inspired by his Aruban roots: Neo-folkloric.

The In the Spotlight Award 2022 also went to Ivette For-

ster and was given by Helen Kamperveen, winner of the theatre award Colombina 21/22 for best actress. Ivette Forster, from Surinamese descent, grew up in Aruba and currently is in charge of the organization of the Keto koti, Kwaku and Reggae Lake festivals. During the last seven years, Ivette is programmer of Black Achievement Month.

In the Spotlight Award is an initiative of Vereniging Antilliaans Netwerk, and the awards are a design of Aruban artist, Melvin Anderson. □

Image are courtesy of Aruba-huis.



The fountain of life and inspiration Nature is the origin of everything

ORANJESTAD – The inauguration of the Festival of Children's Books 2022 will take place on Friday the 4th of November at Cas di Cultura, from 5 to 7pm, with the show starting at 6pm.

The theme for this year is 'Biba Natura-Lesa' [red: Naturalesa, the Papiamentu word for Nature, contains 'lesa' which means to read]. Twelve authors and illustrators will present during the week of 7 to 11 of November in different schools and also at the National Library in Oranjestad and San Nicolas. More than 60 schools are participating

in the festival.

Mr. Gino Vrolijk, teacher and author of children's books is giving his all for this festival.

The books that Gino has written are 'Sumpi e wango sabi!', 'Na caminda pa e fiesta grandi' and 'Amigonan tur caminda!' (co-author). Children can read or borrow these at the National Library.

In the context of the theme for this year, Gino connects with nature, saying:

"Nature is the origin of everything. It is the fountain of life and inspiration. We can see, hear, smell, taste and

feel everything that nature offers us. All this makes us curious to learn, to find out more about and take care of nature. And one way or another, we all enjoy nature, be it by walking in the mondi – Aruban wilderness – swimming in the ocean, see the stars in the sky at night, live or work in the cunucu – Aruban farm – or use nature in any other positive way, the point is that we all form part of nature. Biba Natura-lesa!"

Georgino 'Gino' Vrolijk was born on the 4th of October 1973. He grew up in and around the neighborhood



of Essoville San Nicolas. The schools that Gino attended are Graf von Zinzendorf Kleuterschool, Prinses Irene School, John Wesley College and Colegio Arubano San Nicolaas y Oranjestad.

Gino began his professional career in 1999 as a teacher of first grade (specialization

4-8) at Colegio Hilario Angela Basisschool. In 2004 he worked as curriculum developer at the Department of Education of Aruba. From 2008 to 2019 he was director of Fontein Kleuterschool and from 2019 until now he is practice teacher at the Pedagogic Institute of Aruba (IPA). □

Preliminary report on Palo Marga racing track delivered to minister of Sport



ORANJESTAD – Last week, invited by the minister of Sport, Mr. Kurt Johnson from Total Venue Concepts, a professional on the preparation of drag racing tracks in the United States, came to Aruba for four days.

During his career Mr. Johnson dealt with a lot of drag racing tracks around the world and has knowledge and expertise to evaluate, measure, dig, and analyze tracks and provide a final report. Mr. Johnson visited the Palo Marga track to-

gether with ABM and a representative of the minister of Sport to make an analysis on everything that needs to be done in order to get the track certified.

Mr. Johnson met with the minister of Sport in order to give a preliminary presentation on the report.

During his stay, Mr. Johnson met with Aruban companies that have teams that can execute the work as soon as funds become available. The final report

will be delivered this week to the Ministry of Sport.

Minister of Sport, Mr. Endy Croes expressed his hope that soon the track can be fixed and approved by international organizations, so that the drag racers in Aruba can have a track that fits all IHRA and NHRA specifications for international and national races to take place on the International Raceway Park Palo Marga in the safest way possible. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 39 Reunion

1 Makes girl
togs 40 Makes

5 Division mistakes

9 2000 NBA MVP 41 Sketched

11 Perfect DOWN

13 Shipping 1 Laundry
box pairs

14 Quench 2 Add 8 Hire 24 Dramatist

15 Model buy value to 10 Beat Ben

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30 Emotional

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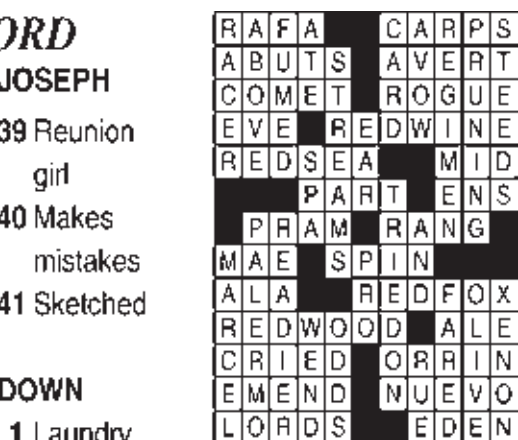
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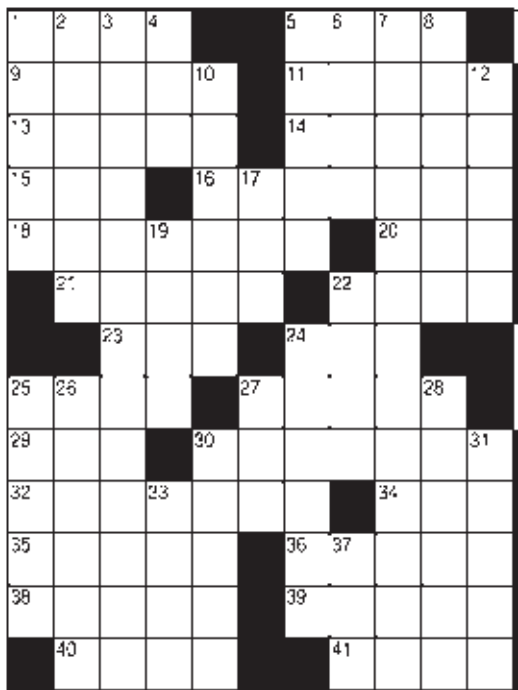
36 Horse

opera

38 Place



Yesterday's answer



AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's. X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-28 CRYPTOQUOTE

OFKUK TN R AFTEM TI KDKUZ
HIK HQ WN BFH TN NOTEE R
OUTAL-HU-OUKROKU EHHLTIV
QHU R GUTVFOEZ ETO QUHIO
YHCAF. — UHGKUO GURWEO

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: GOBLINS AND
GHOULIES FROM LAST HALLOWEEN, AWAKEN
THE SPIRITS WITH YOUR TAMBOURINE!
— MADAME LEOTA. DISNEY'S HAUNTED
MANSTON

Call of Duty's latest battle is between Microsoft and Sony

By MATT O'BRIEN
AP Technology Writer

Hunting down your enemies on the bustling streets of Amsterdam, along the U.S.-Mexico border or in a Middle Eastern fishing village is just part of the intense action in the latest Call of Duty video game.

The Friday release of Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2 continues a nearly two-decade run for California-based Activision Blizzard's wildly popular military shooting game franchise. New installments of the game can rival Hollywood's biggest blockbusters in how much they earn on their opening weekend. But the battle this time is also happening off-screen. Call of Duty is at the center of a corporate tug-of-war between Microsoft's Xbox and Sony's PlayStation over Microsoft's pending \$69 billion purchase of Activision Blizzard.

"Microsoft would have full ownership of one of the most valuable franchises in console gaming," said Joost van Dreunen, a lecturer on the business of games at New York University's Stern School of Business. "And naturally, Sony does not want that or like that because it will cost them business."

Microsoft has been working to get approval from antitrust regulators in the U.S., Europe and elsewhere to complete its January agreement to acquire the video game giant. But it's been trailed around the world by objections from Sony, which is afraid of losing access to what it describes as a "must-have"



A man wears a bulletproof vest that is mapped in a photogrammetry room for the video game series Call of Duty on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, at Activision Blizzard, Infinity Ward Division, in Woodland Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

game title.

Among those listening to Sony's concerns are antitrust regulators in the United Kingdom who last month escalated their investigation into whether Microsoft could make Call of Duty and other titles exclusive to its Xbox platform or "otherwise degrade its rivals' access" by delaying releases or imposing licensing price increases.

"These titles require thousands of game developers and several years to complete, and there are very few other games of similar calibre or popularity," said a September report from the UK's Competition and Markets Authority.

At the Southern California studios of Infinity Ward, the division of Activision Blizzard responsible for creating the new game, the Microsoft-Sony fight has been secondary to game developers' more pressing worries about making sure their newest release satisfies legions of diehard fans.

"It's always tough when you have something this popular and everybody's got an opinion on what it should be, what it shouldn't be," said Jack O'Hara, the game's director.

Work on Modern Warfare 2 started before the COVID-19 pandemic shuttered Infinity Ward's headquarters outside of Los Angeles, forcing developers to be more creative in how they drew the game's characters, weaponry, motions and scenery and recorded its voices. It was the same studio that in 2003 launched the original Call of Duty, a first-person shooter set during World War II. Mark Grigsby, the studio's animation director, first joined in 2005. He said he was feeling "a little bit of anxiety" ahead of Friday's release about how players would react to tweaks affecting the feel of the virtual weapons they're carrying, such as how they recoil after a shot is fired. "Every iteration of the product, you're never able to get everything that you wanted to do done in that one edition. So you're always trying to up your game," Grigsby said. "It takes an army and a talented army." The games have gradually grown more visually realistic, interactive and multiplayer in the past two decades. □

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WHO: Tuberculosis cases rise for the first time in years

GENEVA (AP) — The number of people infected with tuberculosis, including the kind resistant to drugs, rose globally for the first time in years, according to a report Thursday by the World Health Organization. The U.N. health agency said more than 10 million people worldwide were sickened by tuberculosis in 2021, a 4.5% rise from the year before. About 1.6 million people died, it said. WHO said about 450,000 cases involved people infected with drug-resistant TB, 3% more than in 2020. Dr. Mel Spigelman, president of the non-profit TB Alliance, said more than a decade of progress was lost when COVID-19 emerged in 2020.

"Despite gains in areas like preventative therapy, we are still behind in just about every pledge and goal regarding TB," Spigelman said. WHO also blamed COVID-19 for much of the rise in TB, saying the pandemic "continues to have a damaging impact on access to TB diagnosis and treatment." It said progress made before 2019 has since "slowed, stalled or reversed." With fewer people being diagnosed with the highly infectious disease, more patients unknowingly spread tuberculosis to others in outbreaks that may not have been spotted in countries with weak health systems.

WHO reported that the number of people newly identified with TB fell from 7 million in 2019 to 5.8 million in 2020.

WHO also said COVID-19 restrictions, including lockdowns and physical distancing protocols, also hampered TB treatment services and may have prompted some people to skip going to health facilities for fear of catching coronavirus. Officials added that the downturn in the global economy was also a factor, saying that about half of all TB patients and their families face "catastrophic total costs" due



A relative adjusts the oxygen mask of a tuberculosis patient at a TB hospital on World Tuberculosis Day in Hyderabad, India, March 24, 2018.

Associated Press

to their treatment. WHO called for more countries to cover all TB diagnosis and treatment expenses. After COVID-19, TB is the world's deadliest infectious disease. It is caused by bacteria that typically affects the lungs. The germs are mostly spread from person to person in the air, such as when an infected individual coughs or sneezes. TB mostly affects adults, particularly those who are malnourished or have other conditions like HIV; more than 95% of cases are in developing countries. According to the WHO report, only one in three

people with drug-resistant TB are receiving treatment. "Drug-resistant TB is curable, but alarmingly, cases are on the rise for the first time in years," said Dr. Hannah Spencer, who is with Doctors Without Borders in South Africa. "It's urgent that shorter, safer and more effective treatments are scaled up now." Spencer called for lowering the prices of TB treatment so a complete treatment course costs no more than \$500.

WHO also said ongoing conflicts in eastern Europe, Africa and the Middle East have worsened the op-

tions for patients seeking TB diagnosis and treatment. Ukraine had one of the world's worst TB epidemics even before Russia invaded the country in February. □



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TODAY

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A 1960s underground abortion network in 'Call Jane'

By JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

In Phyllis Nagy's "Call Jane," Joy (Elizabeth Banks) is a 1960s housewife married to a defense attorney (Chris Messina) with a teenage daughter (Grace Edwards) and a baby on the way. A heart condition, though, threatens her life in childbirth. The only treatment, her doctor tells her, is "to not be pregnant."

When they, acting on the doctor's advice, appeal to the hospital's board for permission to conduct a therapeutic termination, this critical moment in Joy's life passes curtly. The all-male board members discuss it briefly while not acknowledging Joy, across the table.

"No regard for her mother?" she asks. Their votes sound the answer. "No." "No." "No."

"Call Jane," which opens in theaters Friday, is set more than 50 years ago but it could hardly be more up-to-the-minute. Following the Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade earlier this year, abortion which Pennsylvania Senate Republican candidate Dr. Mehmet Oz recently described as between "a woman, her doctor and



This image released by Roadside Attractions shows Elizabeth Banks in a scene from "Call Jane." Associated Press

local political leaders" is again a hotly debated issue in upcoming elections. Nagy, the screenwriter of Todd Haynes' radiant '50s-set 2015 drama "Carol," again illustrates how the past can illuminate the present. "Call Jane," made before the end of Roe v. Wade but when its future was increasingly precarious, dramatizes the Jane Collective, a Chicago network of women activists who in the years before legalized abortion, clandestinely helped other women

obtain safe abortions. "Call Jane" is just one of the films about abortion rights that by happenstance have debuted this year. Audrey Diwan's piercing "Happening," about a young woman in 1963 France, remains one of 2022's standouts. Tia Lessin and Emma Pildes' HBO documentary "The Janes" grippingly recalled the Jane Collective, with colorful reflections from the women who helped run it. "Call Jane," the glossiest of the bunch, lacks the vivid

detail of "The Janes" or the riveting visual intimacy of Diwan's movie. But all three films bear an of-the-moment urgency and a deep sense of empathy for the adversities faced by women whose choice has been taken from them. "Call Jane" distinguishes itself as a stirring portrait of the birth of an unlikely abortion-rights activist. Banks, always good but especially strong here, plays a woman who looks more '50s than '60s. But

she is slowly awakening to the changing times. In the opening scene, she walks through an elegant hotel lobby with sumptuous music playing a moment that would fit right in in "Carol" only to be struck at the raucous sound of women protesting outside. "You can feel a shifting current," she tells her husband.

It's a paper ad at a bus stop that brings Joy to Jane. After a hesitant phone call, she's brought to their offices by blindfold. But "Call Jane" doesn't play up the covert aspect of the group's activities. Nagy instead stays focused on Joy's awakening to a wider world of female fellowship that's more frank about sex and its repercussions. Virginia (Sigourney Weaver) is the group's leader and a natural hippie foil to Joy. She calls Joy "Jackie O." Soon after Joy's own procedure, Virginia lures Joy into volunteering with the collective. At first, Joy isn't entirely convinced. One young woman who comes to Jane is having unprotected sex with a married man, Joy is appalled to learn. But Virginia lays down the law: "We help women. We don't ask any questions." □

'Unvarnished' bio of Ray Dalio scheduled for next fall

NEW YORK (AP) — An "unauthorized, unvarnished" biography of billionaire hedge-fund manager Ray Dalio will be published next fall, authored by a Wall Street Journal investigative reporter whom the Bridgewater Associates founder has called biased and dishonest.

"The Fund: Ray Dalio, Bridgewater Associates and the Unraveling of a Wall Street Legend," by Rob Copeland, was announced Wednesday by St. Martin's Press. The publisher is billing the book as a counterpoint to Dalio's "mystique of success," with Copeland drawing upon

hundreds of interviews for an in-depth portrait of Dalio and Bridgewater.

"The Fund" peels back the curtain to reveal a rarified world of wealth and power, where former FBI director Jim Comey kisses Dalio's ring, recent Pennsylvania Senate candidate David McCormick sells out, and countless Bridgewater acolytes describe what it's like to work at this fascinating firm," according to St. Martin's.

The 73-year-old Dalio announced earlier this month that he was transferring his voting rights to the board of directors, but will remain as "founder and CIO mentor."

He has previously stepped down from his positions as CEO and chairman.

Copeland has written critically of Dalio, depicting him in a 2020 profile as a domineering executive reluctant to turn over control of Bridgewater and calling Bridgewater's recent performance "less than impressive." Dalio started the company in 1975 and built it into the world's largest hedge-fund firm. His books include the best-selling "Principles: Life & Work." Copeland has also alleged that a female Bridgewater executive was unhappy over being paid less than her male peers, a report la-



Bridgewater Associates Chairman Ray Dalio speaks during the Economic Summit held for the China Development Forum in Beijing, China on March 23, 2019.

Associated Press

beled "misinformation" by Dalio. In a statement released through St. Martin's, Copeland said: "Dalio for years has stuck to a narrative that all Bridgewater em-

ployees are judged on an equal playing field, and that any difference in rank or authority was due only to a rigorous system that susses out merit. The truth is more complex." □

Nash hopeful Nets' Simmons regains 'joy of playing the game'

By **STEVE MEGARGEE**

AP Sports Writer

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Brooklyn Nets coach Steve Nash says he wants to see Ben Simmons regain "that joy of playing the game" as the three-time All-Star tries to bounce back after missing all of last season.

Simmons hasn't scored more than seven points in any of Brooklyn's first four games as the Nets have staggered to a 1-3 start. He had four points, nine assists and five rebounds in 28 minutes on Wednesday night as the Nets fell 110-99 to the Milwaukee Bucks.

The Nets are counting on Simmons to make a successful return from back surgery as they attempt to contend in the Eastern Conference. They acquired Simmons at the trade deadline last season in a move that sent 10-time All-Star James Harden to the Philadelphia 76ers.

"Ben and I work every day at this, trying to give him the confidence to go out there and be aggressive and try to get back to at least the feeling of joy on the court,"



Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) and Brooklyn Nets' Ben Simmons (10) go after the ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022, in Milwaukee. The Bucks won 110-99.

Associated Press

Nash said before Wednesday's game.

Simmons, the No. 1 overall pick in the 2016 draft, said he's feeling better with every game. That's not apparent from his statistics thus far.

He's averaging 5.3 points, 7.5 assists and 5.8 rebounds.

He fouled out of two of Brooklyn's first three games. The Nets host the Dallas Mavericks on Thursday in the first of four straight home games.

"I definitely feel each game I'm progressing a little bit in terms of my physicality and aggression," Simmons said

after the Bucks game.

Nash said he just wants to see Simmons playing hard, fast and aggressively. The coach said he isn't worried if Simmons makes mistakes early on in his comeback, as long as he's showing that energy.

Before this season, Sim-

mons hadn't played a game since the 76ers' Eastern Conference semifinals loss to the Atlanta Hawks in June 2021. He didn't play last season due to mental health concerns before his trade to Brooklyn, as well as his back issue.

He underwent back surgery in May.

Simmons' teammates are encouraging him as he works his way back from the long absence.

"He has the skills to be a great professional," Nets guard Kyrie Irving said. "He's done it in the past, and he hasn't played in two years. You guys keep coming in here and asking me like, 'What about Ben? What about Ben? He hasn't played in two years. Give him a ... chance.'"

The Nets are prepared to offer him that chance.

"We're just here to give him positive affirmation while he's out there and just let him hoop," Irving said. "While he's hooping and getting back into it, we're going to have to really jell as a team in order to learn how to win as a group." □

NCAA approves new guidance on player endorsement deals

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**

AP College Sports Writer

The NCAA's Division I Board of Directors approved on Wednesday new guidance to members on name, image and likeness activities, clarifying how schools, coaches and staffers can be involved with athletes' endorsement and sponsorship deals.

The latest clarifications to the NCAA's interim NIL policy create no new rules, but are intended to give athletic departments a better idea of what types of support fall outside existing by-laws.

"The NIL landscape is constantly evolving, and the Board of Directors decided it was important to offer further guidance with respect to a number of key questions that have arisen recently," said Georgia President Jere Morehead,

chairman of the D-I board. "As we continue to reinforce current NCAA rules, we expect to offer further guidance in the future on what should and should not be done when engaged in these activities."

The NCAA spelled out numerous activities that were permissible and impermissible.

Broadly, the NCAA said schools can not be involved in sourcing, negotiating or facilitating NIL deals for their athletes. Services related to NIL deals, such as legal review of contracts, can only be provided if those same services are available to the entire student body.

"The only services that schools are really allowed to provide for athletes under this new guidance are educational services: How to build your brand. How to

handle finances, taxes and stuff like that," sports law attorney Mit Winter said. "But (schools) can't be providing any service that's going out and helping the athletes actually find deals unless that service is available to all students."

The NCAA's interim NIL policy falls back on existing rules and makes it impermissible for NIL deals to be used as recruiting inducements or pay-for-play or performance-based compensation.

Schools also must adhere to state laws regarding NIL compensation for athletes. Dozens of states have NIL laws, some that already prohibit schools from facilitating deals for athletes.

"But a lot of the state laws allow facilitation of deals and some were even amended to take out prohibitions on facilitation,"

Winter said.

The last time the NCAA provided guidance to members it was to clarify rules related to booster-funded collectives, their roles in providing NIL deals to athletes and recruiting.

The latest guidance said school personnel, includ-

ing coaches, can be part of fundraising for collectives, booster-funded organizations that provide opportunities for athletes to profit from their names, images and likenesses. But coaches and school staff members cannot donate directly to collectives. □



Signage at the headquarters of the NCAA is viewed in Indianapolis, March 12, 2020.

Associated Press

Phillies' World Series run leads wild run of Philly success



Actor, Miles Teller watches during the fourth inning in Game 3 of the baseball NL Championship Series between the San Diego Padres and the Philadelphia Phillies on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

By **DAN GELSTON**

AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Miles Teller — fresh off hosting "Saturday Night Live" for the season premiere — had just hit Cabo San Lucas to vacation and celebrate his wife Keleigh's 30th birthday. Faster than Maverick could reach Mach 10, Teller had a change of plans: The Philadelphia Phillies — the team he grew up rooting for, including sitting with his dad near the left-field foul pole for Shane Victorino's grand slam in the 2008 playoffs — had clinched an NL wild card.

Who needed Cabo when the promise of the South Philadelphia madhouse beckoned?

"We're going to the NLCS. We'll figure it out," Teller told his wife. "Let's go."

So off the couple went, and the actor best known for playing Rooster in "Top Gun: Maverick" became a fixture at home playoff games and had a sweet seat for the Game 5 clincher that sent the Phillies to the World Series.

Yeah, the win took his breath away.

"I've been coming to every playoffs forever," Teller said on the field, the celebration roaring around him. "Now the seats are a little better."

Oh yeah, seats! Teller has them and you have to be a Philly A-lister like Jason Kelce or Jay Wright — or one of the lucky, lottery-winning few — to snag a pair of World Series tickets for Games 3 and 4 and potentially Game 5 next week against the Houston Astros at Citizens Bank Park.

Phillies fever has gripped the city at a time of the year usually reserved for Eagles talk radio chatter.

Philly fans have proven they are willing to fork over big bucks for the chance to watch Bryce Harper stake Citizens Bank Park as his house and Kyle Schwarber launch Schwarbombs. More than 1 million fans entered a ticket lottery on the team website for the opportunity to purchase tickets. Only approximately 20,000 tickets were available to the public — total! — over the three games.

The Phillies are leading the charge of what — in Philly's

relatively dry sports championship history — are heady times to be a sports fan. The 6-0 Eagles are the last undefeated team in the NFL. The Philadelphia Union of the MLS host the Eastern Conference final on Sunday.

Even the Flyers, picked to be among the NHL's worst teams, have a winning record. And, hey, Joel Embiid and the 76ers play here, too!

Flyers coach John Tortorella had just parked his car at the Wells Fargo Center ahead of last Friday night's game right about the time the Phillies scored some runs in Game 3.

"It was shaking over where I was. That was pretty cool," Tortorella said. "That's what I love about being here."

When the no-nonsense coach was asked hockey questions, he laughed and said, "We're talking baseball! I want to talk about the World Series."

The Eagles have noticed the packed houses and pure joy at each Phillies home game. Coach Nick Sirianni and general manager Howie Roseman

have attended playoff games. Kelce, the heart of the Eagles, danced with the Phillie Phanatic during Game 3 of the NLCS, and the burly center then sent the crowd into a frenzy when he slammed a beer right there on the field.

"It's a great time to be in the city of Philadelphia," Kelce said Thursday. "I don't know if that made it, I feel like the Phanatic moment was enough, but the beer was the icing on the cake."

There's plenty of cake, mostly the kind baked in the shape of the Phanatic's head. So much cheap beer and other assorted booze has spilled inside the Phillies' clubhouse, it could about rival the Schuylkill River. McGillin's Olde Ale House, Philadelphia's oldest bar, is pouring red beer in honor of the Phillies for the first time in its history.

With all that alcohol, it's no wonder Philly police officers slather light poles with grease in an — often futile — attempt at slowing down drunken revelers from climbing after each big win.

If the usual slippery stuff

doesn't work, one adult entertainment company said it sent 10 drums of lube to help with the cause.

About the only thing more obscene are the World Series ticket prices on the secondary market. Standing-room only tickets for Game 3 started at \$886 on Thursday, though, of course, the actual sale price could vary greatly. The cash flow continues for concessions: Aramark said Thursday the Phillies sold an average of 2,000 cheesesteaks, 2,531 souvenir sodas and 6,951 hot dogs per game this season.

Throw in the \$16 it costs for October specials such as Red October Punch, and it's no wonder spirits are high.

The good news, the Phillies have kept the bold type in the box scores and out of the police blotter.

"I really want to thank the residents and the fans in the city for their behavior last night," Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney said Monday. "It was joyous. It was fun. City Hall was hopping. Frankford and Cottman was hopping. We had no problems, no issues, no arrests, maybe two arrests." When they're not at the ballpark, fans are painting town the red — and green, and assorted colors needed to layer city walls with at least two Harper murals.

And if a portrait of Harper with "MVP" painted above his head doesn't seem larger than life, perhaps meeting the real deal does. Lucky Phillies fans were shocked when they spotted Harper this week shopping at a New Jersey location of Trader Joe's.

It seems like a different universe, a different time from Philadelphia's last world championship in 2008. Back then, fans waited impatiently for Victorino to occasionally update his blog for his inside look at the team.

Harper, Hoskins, players' wives and girlfriends now shoot real-time video for Instagram and other social media outlets that only tighten the bond between the team and their fans. □